

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MAZATL 00381 142223Z

71

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 DHA-02 NSC-05

PRS-01 SNM-02 DEAE-00 SS-15 /042 W

----- 111469

P R 141815Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL MAZATLAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 890

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS MAZATLAN 0381

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC: MX

SUBJ: W/W ARRESTS: AMERICAN PRISONER HUNGER STRIKE

REF: MAZATLAN'S 370 AND PREVIOUS

1. ON A ROUTINE VISIT TO MAZATLAN PRISON SEPTEMBER 13, ONE PRISONER PRESENTED CONSUL WITH LETTER HE HAD RECEIVED FROM THE 1732, INC., WHICH WAS DATED SEPTEMBER 3 AND SIGNED BY MARY COULTER, PRESIDENT.
2. THE LETTER URGES THE PRISONERS TO SUPPORT THE HUNGER STRIKE UNTIL THEIR RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES, AND STATES THAT 1732 IS BEHIND THEM ALL THE WAY.
3. FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM LETTER QUOTE FRANK STEVENS, CHIEF OF EMERGENCY AND PROTECTION SERVICES DIVISION OF SPECIAL CONSULAR SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, D.C. CALLED ME TODAY AND WE TALKED FOR ABOUT A HALF HOUR. TO SUMMARIZE OUR CONVERSATION, HE STATED THAT THE HUNGER STRIKE WAS A DANGEROUS AND FRUITLESS THING. THE STATE DEPARTMENT WAS CONCERNED ABOUT IT. THEY DO NOT THINK THE HUNGER STRIKE IS A USEFUL THING TO DO. UNQUOTE
4. QUOTE MR. STEVENS SAID THE NEW CONSUL GENERAL, MR. MCANNINCH VISITED THE PRISONS SEVERAL DAYS AGO TO TALK WITH THE AMERICANS. HE STATED THAT IN JUNE THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MAZATL 00381 142223Z

APPROACHED HENRY KISSINGER OF THEIR INTEREST IN DEVISING A

WAY TO SEND U.S. PRISONERS HOME PROVIDED THAT THEY SPEND THEIR
ALLOTTED TIME OF SENTENCE IN U.S. PRISONS. UNQUOTE

5. QUOTE LATE JUNE, AMBASSADOR JOVA CALLED ON THE FOREIGN
MINISTER AND LEFT A WRITTEN MESSAGE. MEXICO HAS NOT ANSWERED HIS
NOTE. U.S. LEGAL ADVISORS ARE TO MEET WITH MEXICAN LEGAL ADVISERS
ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF SEPTEMBER OR FIRST OF OCTOBER. THERE IS NO
WAY TO PREDICT WHEN NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE COMPLETED. ACCORDING TO
THE STATE DEPARTMENT IT WILL TAKE A LONG TIME. MR. STEVENS
ASSURED ME THAT THE STATE DEPT. WAS NOT DRAGGING THEIR HEELS BUT
INFERRED NEGOTIATIONS WERE PROCEEDING VERY RAPIDLY. HE SAID THERE
WERE MANY THINGS TO BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION BEFORE A PRISONER
EXCHANGE WOULD BE FORTHCOMING . UNQUOTE

6. QUOTE TO SUM IT ALL UP, I BELIEVE THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS
CONCERNED MORE ABOUT THE PUBLICITY THIS HUNGER STRIKE WILL GENERATE
THAN THE WELFARE OF THE U.S. PRISONERS. WE HAVE MANY VALID
REASONS TO QUESTION THE SINCERITY OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT IN
THE PRISONER EXCHANGE NEGOTIATIONS. UNQUOTE

7. QUOTE PARENTS ARE PLANNING A TRIP TO WASHINGTON SOON,
HOPEFULLY TO SEE PRESIDENT FORD. IF HE DOES NOT COMPLY WITH
OUR REQUEST FOR AN AUDIENCE, WE PLAN THE TRIP ANYWAY, BANNERS,
SIGNS AND ALL. JOE DE COLA FROM 60 MINUTES IS FOLLOWING THIS
ALL THE WAY, SO LET ME KNOW IMMEDIATELY WHAT IS HAPPENING SO
THAT I CAN RELATE THIS TO HIM. HE SAID IF PUBLICITY IS
GENERATED OVER THE HUNGER STRIKE, 60 MINUTES WILL AIR THEIR
SHOW ON AMERICANS IN MEXICAN PRISONS ON SEPT. 19, 1976. UNQUOTE

8. QUOTE DWIGHT WORKER AND MYSELF ARE PLANNING TO GO TO NEW
YORK TO DEBATE THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON NBC, TOMORROW SHOW.
PARENTS ARE GOING TO WASH., WE ARE PLANNING A PROTEST AT
TIJUANA BORDER WITH OUR OTHER 1732, INC. GROUPS. SO YOU SEE
A LOT HINGES ON A SUCCESSFUL HUNGER STRIKE. UNQUOTE

9. CONSULATE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS OR FEEDBACK ON THE
ABOVE STATEMENTS RE THE PROPOSED WASHINGTON TRIP AND THE DEBATE
ON THE "TOMORROW SHOW."

10. COPY OF COMPLETE TEXT OF LETTER BEING POUCHED.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 MAZATL 00381 142223Z

MATTHEWS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRISONERS WELFARE, HUNGER STRIKES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MAZATL00381
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760346-1285
From: MAZATLAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760963/aaaacbqz.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCSE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MAZATLAN 370
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vandyklc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2004 by schaeafaj>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by vandyklc>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: W/W ARRESTS: AMERICAN PRISONER HUNGER STRIKE
TAGS: CASC, MX, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006